

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein said nanoparticles or the said nanolatex have a mean particle size of polymer of from 10 to 500 nm.

3. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 2, wherein said nanolatex has a solids content from 10% to 50% by weight.

4. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, which is in the form

- * of a solid or of a concentrated aqueous dispersion, placed in contact with the fabrics to be treated, after dilution in water;
- * of a concentrated dispersion placed beforehand on the dry fabrics to be treated before dilution in water;
- * of an aqueous dispersion to be placed directly on the dry fabrics to be treated without dilution or of a solid support comprising the nanoparticles or the nanolatex, to be applied directly to the dry fabrics to be treated; or

* of an insoluble solid support comprising the said particles or the said nanolatex placed directly in contact with the wet fabrics to be treated.

5. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, which comprises from 0.05% to 10% of the said particles or of the said nanolatex expressed as dry weight.

6. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein said composition is

- a solid or liquid detergent formulation comprising from 0.05% to 5% of the said nanoparticles or of the said nanolatex, expressed as dry weight, capable of directly forming a washing bath by dilution;

- a liquid rinsing and/or softening formulation comprising from 0.05% to 3% of the said nanoparticles or of the said nanolatex, expressed as dry weight, capable of directly forming a rinsing and/or softening bath by dilution;

- a solid textile material comprising from 0.05% to 10% of the said nanoparticles or of the said nanolatex, expressed as dry weight, which is to be placed in contact with wet fabrics in a tumble dryer;

- an aqueous ironing formulation comprising from 0.05% to 10% of the said nanoparticles or of the said nanolatex, expressed as dry weight;

- a washing additive comprising from 0.05% to 10% of the said nanoparticles or of the said nanolatex, expressed as dry weight, to be placed on the dry fabrics prior to a washing operation using a detergent formulation containing or not containing the said particles or the said nanolatex.

Claims 7 and 8 (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein the hydrophobic units (N) are derived from vinylaromatic monomers, from alkyl esters of α - β monoethylenically unsaturated acids, from vinyl or allylic esters of saturated carboxylic acids or from α - β monoethylenically unsaturated nitriles.

10. (Currently Amended) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein the cationic or cationizable hydrophilic units (F1) are derived from N,N- (~~dialkylamino- ω 3-alkyl~~) amides dialkylamino- ω -alkyl)amides of α - β monoethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acids, from α - β monoethylenically unsaturated amino esters or from monomers that are precursors of primary amine functions by hydrolysis.

11. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein the amphoteric hydrophilic units (F2) are derived from N,N-dimethyl N-methacryloyloxyethyl-N- (3-sulphopropyl) ammonium sulphobetaine, N,N-dimethyl-N- (2-methacrylamidoethyl) -N- (3-sulphopropyl) ammonium betaine, 1-vinyl-3- (3-sulphopropyl) imidazolidium betaine, 1- (3-sulphopropyl) -2-vinylpyridinium betaine, derivatives of the quaternization reaction of N-(dialkylamino- ω -alkyl) amides of α - β ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acids, or α - β monoethylenically unsaturated amino esters, with a chloroacetate of an alkali metal or of propane sultone.

Claim 12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein the uncharged or non-ionizable hydrophilic units (F4) are derived from hydroxyalkyl esters of α - β monoethylenically unsaturated acids, α - β monoethylenically unsaturated acid amides, α - β ethylenically unsaturated monomers bearing a water-soluble polyoxyalkylenated segment, α - β monoethylenically unsaturated monomers that are precursors of vinyl alcohol units or of polyvinyl alcohol segments by polymerization and then hydrolysis, or methacrylamidoethyl-2-imidazolidinone.

14. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein the crosslinking units (R) are derived from divinylbenzene, ethylene glycol dimethacrylate, allyl methacrylate, methylenebis (acrylamide) or glyoxal bis (acrylamide).

15. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein the choice and the relative amounts of the monomer(s) from which the units(s) of the polymer are derived are such that the said polymer has a glass transition temperature T_g from -40°C to 150°C , and remains insoluble under the working conditions of the composition.

Claims 16-20 (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A crease-resistant, softening, or pre-spotting fabric treating composition which comprises nanoparticles or at least one nanolatex of at least one polymer (P3) which is insoluble under the working conditions of said composition in an aqueous or wet medium, said polymer (P3) containing amphoteric units, comprising:

- at least 70% of the total mass of said polymer of hydrophobic monomer units (N),

- at least 0.1% and not more than ~~30%~~ 20% of the total mass of said polymer of amphoteric hydrophilic monomer units (F2),
- optionally uncharged or non-ionizable hydrophilic monomer units (F4),
- optionally cationic or cationizable hydrophilic monomer units (F1), and
- optionally at least one crosslinking unit (R),

the combination of hydrophilic monomer units representing at least 1% of the weight of the polymer (P3), and the molar ratio of cationic charges to anionic charges ranging from 1/99 to 80/20 depending on the desired use of the said composition.

22. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein said composition is a tumble dryer additive or an aqueous ironing formulation when the molar ratio of the cationic charges to the anionic charges ranges from 1/99 to 80/20.

23. (Previously Presented) Composition according to Claim 21, wherein said composition is a detergent formulation, a prespotter, a tumble dryer additive or an aqueous ironing formulation, and the molar ratio of the cationic charges to the anionic charges ranges from 1/99 to 60/40.

Claims 24-28 (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) Process for imparting crease-resistance ~~and/or~~ or facilitating ironing of fabrics comprising treating said fabrics in an aqueous or wet medium with the composition of Claim 21.

30. (Currently Amended) A process for enhancing the properties of a composition for treating fabrics in an aqueous or wet medium, which comprises adding to said composition in an amount effective to impart crease-resistance ~~and/or~~ or facilitate ironing of said fabric, nanoparticles or at least one nanolatex of the polymer (P3) of claim 21.

Claims 31 and 32 (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the mean particle size of the polymer is from 20 to 300 nm.

34. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the mean particle size of the polymer is from 20 to 100 nm.

35. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the mean particle size of the polymer is from 20 to 50 nm.

36. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 3, wherein said nanolatex has a solids content of 20% to 40% by weight.

Claims 37-39 (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 21, wherein the polymer (P3) comprises not more than 10% by weight of amphoteric hydrophilic monomer units (F2).